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MAYOR SCOTT'S K
C H A R G E

AGAINST THE
RIGHT HONOURABLE
EDMUND BURKE,

FEBRUARY 6, 1789.

L O N D O N;

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MAJOR SCOTT

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MAJOR SCOTT'S
C H A R G E,

&c. &c.

MAJOR SCOTT *has just published a Third Edition of his "Reply to Mr. SHERIDAN'S Comparative View of the India Bills of Mr. Fox and Mr. PITT." To this he has prefixed a Preface, dated a few days ago, from which we have taken the following extract :*

MR. BURKE has told us more than once lately, that he never makes an assertion which he is not prepared to prove. Now I pledge myself, as a gentleman and a man of ho-

now, to prove, if Mr. Burke will call upon me to do so, that every syllable which he uttered upon the subject of Deby Sing, as it respected Mr. Hastings, was unfounded, and that he knew it to be so at the time he spoke in Westminster Hall.

I pledge myself also to prove, that the horrid acts which he stated, and which modesty will not permit me to repeat, never were committed at all, as appeared, after the fullest and most serious investigation, which was made and recorded, during the government of Sir John Macpherson.

Why Mr. Burke, after he was in habits of intimacy with Sir John, chose to state as facts, what that gentleman could have told him were utterly false, I know not.

Why

Why Mr. Burke has never to the present moment acknowledged how grossly he had misled the world, cannot be accounted for upon any principles which will do him credit.

But as my object ever will be to guard the public against the artful designs of men who once attempted, under the plea of humanity, and a tender regard to the sufferings of millions, to fix their own power on a foundation not to be shaken, I shall be ready even to encounter the abilities of Mr. Sheridan, if he chuses, at any future period, to draw a fresh comparison between the India Bills of Mr. Pitt and Mr. Fox.

“ Gentlemen who candidly consider the facts
 “ which I have stated, will determine whether
 “ the general principles of the Party,” as evinced
 by their practice, merit all that respect which
 Mr. Sheridan’s country friend professes to have
 for them. Of the worth and integrity of many

individuals of that Party, no man can have a higher opinion than myself; and without having the honour of being personally known to the Duke of Portland, it is not possible to be unacquainted with his many excellent qualities: but his Grace may say with great truth, what a very wise man, the late Mr. Pulteney, said before him, "That the heads of Parties, some-
 " what like the heads of Snakes, are urged on
 " by the tail."

On Saturday night, Major Scott sent one of the first copies he got, with his compliments, to Mr. Burke, and telling him in the note, that as he had taken the liberty of alluding to certain matters which had passed some time ago, he conceived it improper that such a work should be circulated without being communicated at the same time to Mr. Burke; and therefore Major Scott had done himself the honour
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to send him a copy of it. Both the preface and the note were returned to the person who was desired by Major Scott to send them, Mr. Burke saying, that he did not want them. On Monday night, Mr. Burke himself told Major Scott, that he ought to apologize to him for sending back the note and pamphlet, unless the note contained something offensive to him; which Major Scott assured him it did not. Mr. Burke then desired the pamphlet might be sent, since he would read it with pleasure, as it contained nothing offensive to him. Major Scott replied, that he spoke of the note only, the pamphlet most certainly did contain a direct contradiction of something which Mr. Burke had said; who immediately replied, then he wished not to see it, as he did not want to read any thing against himself. Major Scott answered, that Mr. Burke would act as he pleased; all that was incumbent upon Major

Scott to do, he had done, which was, to give Mr. Burke an opportunity of seeing, if he chose, what had been publicly advanced; if he wished not to see it, the Major could not help it.

The facts which Major Scott alluded to are these:—The Public will recollect, that when Mr. Burke told the story of Deby Sing in Westminster Hall, which has since been so industriously circulated throughout Great Britain and throughout Europe, he read extracts from certain documents which he held in his hand. Mr. Hastings procured from the India House, an exact copy of all the papers which Mr. Burke had received on this subject. Major Scott took them to Margate in the autumn, and after a very strict and careful examination of every document, he found, that at the time Mr. Burke spoke, he had undoubted evidence by him, that whether Deby Sing

Sing was or was not guilty of the horrid acts imputed to him, it was absolutely impossible for human ingenuity, or human nature, to fix the slightest blame upon Mr. Hastings, or to make him a participator in the acts of Deby Sing.

But he did not stop here; he carried down with him also, documents which had arrived in England *after* Mr. Burke detailed this story.—From these it appeared upon undoubted evidence, that the horrid cruelties stated by Mr. Burke *never were committed at all*, as Sir John Macpherson could have testified before Mr. Burke said a word; the matter having been most accurately investigated upon oath in his administration.

These discoveries made so strong an impression upon Major Scott, that he wrote a Letter to Mr. Fox, whom he never believed to have
 been

been a party in such a proceeding, stating the whole at length : but though printed in September last, the communication of it to Mr. Fox and the Public was kept back upon an idea, that pending the proceedings in Westminster Hall, any discussion of the subject would be improper. If, however, Mr. Burke has any doubts of Major Scott's veracity, or his accuracy, the Letter to Mr. Fox, which explains the whole, is ready to be produced.



THE END.

